

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SUVA 00282 072348Z

64

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 EB-07

OMB-01 /069 W

----- 036961

R 072100Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY SUVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4822

INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

UNCLAS SUVA 0282

WELLINGTON FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, FJ

SUBJ: COMMERCE MINISTER RESIGNS

1. MOHAMMED T. KHAN, MINISTER FOR COMMERCE, INDUSTRY, AND COOPERATIVES, RESIGNED CABINET POST MARCH 5 AS RESULT OF REQUEST FROM PRIME MINISTER WHO HAD RECEIVED ALLEGATIONS THAT MINISTER'S DEALINGS WITH DESBRO STEEL ROLLING MILLS LTD. IN SUVA WERE "INCOMPATIBLE" WITH DUTIES AS MINISTER. IN LETTER OF RESIGNATION, KHAN DENIED THAT CHARGES WERE TRUE AND WELCOMED FULL INQUIRY. IN RESPONSE, PRIMIN NOTED THAT WHILE THEY MAY NOT BE TRUE THEY HAVE BEEN MADE AND MUST BE FULLY INVESTIGATED. PRIMIN NOTED RESIGNATION "PROPER AND IN KEEPING WITH MINISTERIAL CONVENTION AND TRADITION".

2. ALTHOUGH FULL DETAILS NOT KNOWN, KHAN HAD EARLIER APPOINTED COMMITTEE TO LOOK INTO COMPLAINTS BY BUILDERS AND SUPPLIERS THAT PRICES OF LOCAL STEEL PRODUCTS (DESBRO IS ONLY LOCAL PRODUCER) WERE HIGH AND QUALITY INFERIOR COMPARED TO OVERSEAS PRODUCTS. COMMITTEE REPORTEDLY BACKED DESBRO IN REPORT TO KHAN. ONE MEMBER OF COMMITTEE REPORTED IDSENTED AND MADE ALLEGATIONS TO PRIMIN.

3. ACCORDING TO PRESS MAR 8, CID OF ROYAL FIJI POLICE IS IN-
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VESTIGATING. ASSISTANT MINISTER OF COMMERCE LIVAI NASILAVATA

IS ACTING WHILE ISSUE UNDER INVESTIGATION.

HALL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS, ALLEGATIONS, STEELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SUVA00282
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760086-0973
From: SUVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760386/aaaacyar.tel
Line Count: 63
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 JUN 2004 by fisherem>; APPROVED <14 DEC 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMERCE MINISTER RESIGNS
TAGS: PINT, FJ, (KHAN, MOHAMMED T)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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